REMARKS

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

Claims 11-18 are allowed.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-8, 10, and 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wang (USPN 5,783,328).

Independent claims 1, 3, 4, 19 and 24 have been amended to show more clearly that the present invention recites utilizing a first coating-element-included hydroxide, a first coating-element-included oxycarbonate, and a first coating-element-included oxycarbonate, and a first coating-element-included hydroxycarbonate, wherein the first coating element is selected from the group consisting of AI, Si, Ti, Sn, V, Ge, Ga, B, and As; and a second surface-treatment layer formed on said first surface-treatment layer, said second surface-treatment layer comprising another compound selected from the group consisting of a second coating-element-included hydroxide, a second coating-element-included oxycarbonate, and a second coating-element-included hydroxycarbonate, wherein the second coating element is selected from the group consisting of AI, Si, Ti, Sn, V, Ge, Ga, B and As and is a coating element different from the coating element selected for the first surface-treatment layer. Claims 9 and 10 have also been amended to improve form. Claims 3 and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

It is respectfully submitted that Wang does not teach or suggest utilizing a first coating-element-included hydroxide, a first coating-element-included oxyhydroxide, a first coating-element-included hydroxycarbonate, wherein the first coating element is selected from the group consisting of Al, Si, Ti, Sn, V, Ge, Ga, B, and As; and a second surface-treatment layer formed on said first surface-treatment layer, said second surface-treatment layer comprising another compound selected from the group consisting of a second coating-element-included hydroxide, a second coating-element-included oxyhydroxide, a second coating-element-included oxycarbonate, and a second coating-element-included hydroxycarbonate, wherein the second coating element is selected from the group consisting of Al, Si, Ti, Sn, V, Ge, Ga, B and As and is a coating element different from the coating element selected for the first surface-treatment layer.

Serial No. 10/046,557

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 4, 19 and 24 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and are not anticipated by Wang (USPN 5,783,328). Similarly, since dependent claims 2, 5-8, 10, 20-22 and 25-26 depend from amended independent claims 1, 4, 19 and 24, respectively, which are submitted to be allowable under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and not anticipated by Wang (USPN 5,783,328), claims 2, 5-8, 10, 20-22 and 25-26 are submitted to be allowable for at least the reasons that amended independent claims 1, 4, 19 and 24 are submitted to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 19 and 24 have been amended. Claim 23 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-22, and 24-26 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

By:

e. Tanada T, and T

Registration No. 34,257

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 434-1500

Facsimile: (202) 434-1501